the change of location by M/s Orissa Sugars Ltd., from Nawarangpur to Borigumma in the State of Orissa.

It is the responsibility of the enterpreneur to take necessary steps towards implementation of the project.

Supply of Sugar to Gujarat

503. SHRI CHIMANBHAI HARIBHAI SHUKLA): Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state:

(a) what is the percentage of the total quantity of sugar to be sold through public distribution system to the total quantity supplied to the State of Gujarat;

(b) what were such percentages for the last three years;

(c) whether it is a fact that in view of short supply of sugar in the State to be sold through PDs, consumers had to purchase sugar from the open market during festival seasons;

(d) hether it oudl increase the prices of sugar; and

(e) if so, the measures taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD (SHRI KALP NATH RAI): (a) and (b) The levy sugar allocation to the State Government for distribution through Public Distribution System is made by the Central Government. It is the responsibility of State Governments including Gujarat Government to distribute the entire allotted quantity through the Public Distribution System operative in the State. The monthly levy sugar quota of Gujarat State is 16194 MTs from February 1987. In addtion to this, out of 1 lakh tonnes of festival quota allotted every year, the share of Gujarat State is 4878 MTs per annum. Accordingly, the aforesaid levy allocations have been made to Gujarat Government upto January 1995 for distribution through Public Distribution System.

(c) The allocation of levy sugar to 16194 MTs of levy sugar as monthly quota was maintained during the festival season sides allocation of 4878 MTs as festi quota during the months of August October 1994.

(d) and (e) Sugar prices in the o market had remained at a reasonable l during the festival months this season.

Protest of FCI Officials

504. SHRI VIREN J. SHAH: Will Minister of FOOD be pleased to stat

(a) whether a representation signed 26 senior officials of the Food Corp tion of India was submitted to the C net Secretary protesting against the ins ing behaviour ith them by some r official directors of the corporation the Minister concerned in a meetin FCI held on the 22nd September, 1 as reported in the "Observer", New D of 24th September, 1994;

(b) if so, what are the details in regard;

(c) whether unparliamentary langu was used and also wild unbecoming ph cal gestures we made against a senior Executive Director of FCI in the meet

(d) if so, what are the details in regard;

(e) what action Government taken or propose to take in the matte

(f) whether Government have revie the working of FCI and if so, what the details in this regard; and

(g) how Government propose to rve its functioning?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF T MINISTRY OF FOOD (SHRI K NATH RAI): (a) and (b) No represe tion purported to have been given to Cabinet Secretary by 26 senior offi of FCI has been received in this Mi try.

(c) and (d) No, Sir.

(e) Question does not arise.

(f) and (g) The working of the F Corporation of India is being revie

ugh Quarterly Performance Review tings. The Ministry gives policy direcs to the Corporation from time to e to improve its functioning. The king of the Corporation is also dised in the meetings of Consultative mittee of Parliament attached to the istry. The last meeting of the Consul-e Committee was held on 24th ust, 1994.

chase of paddy in Punjab and Haryana

05. SHRI S. S. SURJEWALA: Will Minister of FOOD be pleased to :

i) whether it is a fact that the Food poration of India and the State agendid not enter the markets in Punjab Haryana for the purchase of paddy ie first fortnight of the current season sing huge losses to the farmers in e States;

) wehther it is also a fact that the s were forced to resort to distress sale addy in the markets;

) whether it is als a ofact that the ers were forced to sell their more Basmati Paddy at the rate of Rs. 300 quintal instead of Rs. 360, the support fixed by the Central Government in absence of the Food Corporation of and Government Agencies in the of Haryana and Punjab; and

) if so, whether Government propose ompensate the loss incurred by such ers?

HE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE ISTRY OF FOOD (SHRI KALP 'H RAI): (a) and (b) No, Sir. The tum of paddy purchased in Punjab Haryana during the current Kharif keting Season 1994-95 as on 23-11-94 of the order of 73.10 lakh tonnes and lakh tonnes respectively as com- to 54.38 and 1.26 lakh tonnes ctively procured during the corresing period last year.

(c) and (d) Since the prevailing rates in Mandis in Punjab and Haryana for Basmati paddy are at levels much higher than Minimum Support Prices for paddy, Basmati paddy is not offered by farmers to procurement agencies for sale. As regards Non-basmati superfine paddy, in the initial stages of procurement there were some complaints related to quality of paddy. Permissible maximum percentage of admixture of lower variety of grains in superfine variety of paddy is 10 per cent as per spectfications. There was, however, pressure in some areas that the procurement agencies should purchase superfine variety of paddy with even higher admixture of lower variety of grains. These problems have since been sorted out and the procurement operations are going on smoothly.

Minimum support price of rice in Punjab

506. SHRI BHUPINDER SINGH MANN: Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have fixed the minimum support price for superfine, fine and course varieties of rice in Punjab;

(b) if so, whether Government are aware that procurement agencies have failed to pay the fixed price for the above varieties to the farmers; and

(c) if so, the action taken against the erring officials and to compensate the farmers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD (SHRI KALP NATH RAI): (a) The Minimum Support Price for common, fine and superfine varieties of paddy of fair average quality have been fixed at Rs. 340, Rs. 360 and Rs. 380 per quinta lrespectively for the Kharif Marketing season 1994-95.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.